MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved families our deep sense of sorrow and profund sympathy.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE. NEW LEADER OF THE HOUSE — contd.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Mr. Chairman, the Government must first answer our question...

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: What about... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have told you in the room, all that you want to be done will be done...

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: We want to bring a garland for Shri V. P. Singh. Would you permit us to do so?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Outside the House, yes. Now, will you all please let me complete?

I have to inform Members that I have received the following communication dated 12th April, 1987 from the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi:--

"I nominate Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, who is a member of the Government, to be the Leader of the Rajya Sabha."

Shall I take up the questions now?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): No, Sir.

***Re.* RESIGNATION OF THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH**

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH (West Bengal): Before the Question Hour is taken up, the biggest question to be answered by the Government is: Under what circumstances has Shri V. P. Singh resigned? That is the biggest question to be answered.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): I have given notice under rule 267 asking for waiver of rule 38...

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Government must come out with an answer to my question and then only is the Question Hour to be taken up.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): May I make a submission?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: ...to discuss the extraordinary situation arising out of the resignation of the Defence Minister following institution of an inquiry into a Defence deal. It is such an important matter that the whole country is exercised over it. The newspapers have commented on it. Today one newspaper has directly accused the Prime Minister of his complicity in this deal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will all of you please sit down? I am on my legs. (*Interruptions*). Please sit down.

Under Rule 177 of the Rules of Procedure, I have fixed 4 o'clock on the 15th for the discussion of this matter. (*Interruptions*).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: No. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: No (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, may I make a submission? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, this is a very serious matter and we cannot wait. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, this is a very serious matter. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Let the Prime Minister be summoned to make a statement. We want an answer from the Prime Minister. This is the biggest question which the country is facing. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, the whole Government is involved in this issue. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: If it had happened in any other country—the Defence Minister resigning in the wake of ordering a probe into a deal —the Government there would have resigned. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: If it is only Mr. V. P. Singh and Mr. V. P. Singh alone who is involved in this, we would not have raised the issue at all and asked you to suspend the Question Hour. But the whole Government is involved. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will all of you, please sit down? I am on my legs. (*Interruptions*). All of you, please sit down. First of all, you obey the Chair. (*Interruptions*). Please obey the Chair. Mr. Chitta Basu, you are a senior Member. Please obey the Chair.

Under the Rules, I have refused to dispense with the Question Hour. Therefore, I am going to proceed with the Question Hour. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: We will not allow. (*Interruptions*). We shall not allow. (*Interruptions*). We shall not allow (*Interruptions*). This is the biggest question that we are facing today. (*Interruptions*). The biggest question we are facing today. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: It is a question of the integrity of the Government. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: It is not Mr. V. P. Singh who is involevd, but it is the Government which is involved. (*Interruptions*). Sir, the Government stands condemned in the eyes of the people. (*Interruptions*). The Government stands condemned in the eyes of the people. The whole Government is involved in this affair. Therefore, the Question Hour should be done away with and there should be a discussion on this issue. (*Interruptions*).

Sir, we want the Prime Minister to come over here. Let the Prime Minister come over here. Let the Prime Minister be summoned here. Where is he now? (*Interruptions*).

AN HON. MEMBER: He is in the dock. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: The Lok Sabha is not there. Let him be called. (*Interruptions*). Let the Prime Minister be called.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Where is Mr. 'Clean'? (*Interruptions*): Where is Mr. 'Clean'? Is he cleaning up? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, this is a serious matter. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, on the 11th, Mr. V. P. Singh said, "I will talk about it all in the House". "I will talk about it all in the House." This is what he said and yesterday, Sir, he has said, "I will not utilize the opportunity of making a statement.". In between what has happened and even files are said to have been seized from the commerce Ministry. Is he being blackmailed or threatened? (*Interruptions*)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Shame, shame. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: We want to know why he is not making a statement.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): Sir, this is a serious matter. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Sir, so far in history we have seen a Minister quitting his post having been associated with a scandal or a case of corruption. But this is a case where the Minister is quitting because he counld not fight against corruption from inside the Cabinet. (*Interruptions*).

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Shame, shame. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: This is a Unique case now here in history, can you see. (*Interruptions*). This is a unique case. So, we must discuss it. The Government owes an explanation. The Government as a whole owes an explanation to Parliament. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: This is a serious matter. (*Interruptions*). But this is not a matter where...

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, this involves the question of national security. (*Interruptions*). This involves the security of the country. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: This is not a matter of Mr. V. P. Singh alone. (*Interruptions*). The whole Government is exposed and stands condemned.

SHRI J. P. GOYAL: (Uttar Pradesh): Why should not the Prime Minister be in the House? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: The Government itself is in a state of crisis. It is not merely V. P. Singh alone (*Interruptions*). We want the Prime Minister to be here. Please call the Prime Minister, Sir. We want the Prime Minister of India. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: We are not going to listen to anybody else other than the Prime Minister. We want the Prime Minister to be here.

THE MINISTER OF PARILAMENTAY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): We are ready for a discussion already. There is no question.... (*Interruptions*). There is no crisis in the Government.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY. Please summon the Prime Minister.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: There is no crisis in the Government.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: The Prime Minister must come and give a statement

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: You have already allowed a discussion on that. We are prepared for discussion. There is no crisis in the Government. The entire Government is united. The entire Congress Party is united.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are not going to listen to. (*Interruptions*) We want... (*Interruptions*) Where is Mr. Clean?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not given the floor to anybody. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: May I make a suggestion?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, never in the recent past, such a situation has arisen.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Sir, Mr. V. P. Singh has written a letter to the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister says that it is something between them. How is it something between them? It is a public affair concerning the nation. It is not something between them.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: We want the Prime Minister to come over here and make a statement.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: We want the Prime Minister to reply to our question. (*Interruptions*) You may be sent to Farooq Abdullah. You may be sent to Sharad Pawar. But not here. You cannot be the emissary of the Prime Minister to reply to our questions.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Let me make a submission to the Chair first. (*Interruptions*) Otherwise, we will not allow the proceedings to go on.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request all of you, to please sit down.

SHRI N. E. BALARAM (Kerala): Where is the Leader?
(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am on my legs. We have spent 25 minutes. Enough is enough. Let us proceed with the Question Hour.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: No, Sir.
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: We will not allow. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: The Prime Minister must come. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I adjourn the House till twelve NOON.

The House then adjourned at twenty seven minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock, **Mr. Chairman** in the Chair.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir,... (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you all please sit down first? I want to take one or two minutes. This morning there has been such a lot of confusion. Whatever is recorded is official, whatever is not recorded is not official and I have informed the press that nothing which is not recorded in the proceedings of the House should be published. That is number one. (*Interruptions*). I have already discussed with you. Why are you impatient?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Impatient not with you but with them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shall I finish the formal portion of the work? I want your permission to finish the formal portion of the work, namely Papers Laid on the Table. Will you allow that?

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: No, no. (*Interruptions*). No proceedings. Only one paper can be laid on the Table and that is resignation of the Central Government. (*Interruptions*) That paper can be laid on the Table.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: The Prime Minister must come and make a statement. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALPNATH RAI (Uttar Pradesh): First papers to be laid.

SHRI K. MOHANAN (Kerala): Ask Prime Minister to come and make a statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing anybody to speak. (*Interruptions*). Under rule 257 of the Rules of Procedure, in the case of grave disorder arising in the Council, the Chairman may, if he thinks it necessary to do so, adjourn the Council. (*Interruptions*). I adjourn the House till **15th.**